

Message Text

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44

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-25 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15

USIA-12 EB-11 COME-00 INT-08 SCEM-02 TRSE-00 OMB-01

RSR-01 /136 W

----- 116377

R 181130Z JUL 73

FM AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7161

INFO /AMEMBASSY BEIRUT 3106

AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

AMCONSUL DHAHRAN

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

USMISSION OECD PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L KUWAIT 2551

BEIRUT PASS BAGHDAD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ENRG KU

SUBJ: KUWAIT PARTICIPATION RENEGOTIATION

REF: KUWAIT 2541

1. LOCAL PRESS HAS QUOTED MINISTER OF STATE AS SAYING GOK HAS NOT YET OFFICIALLY CONVEYED TO GULF AND BP ITS POSITION REGARDING PARTICIPATION RENEGOTIATIONS TO BE HELD LATER THIS MONTH. SOME KNOWLEDGEABLE OBSERVERS, INCLUDING SENIOR KOC OFFICIAL AND KUWAIT FORMER KOC BOARD MEMBER WHO NOW AN ADVISOR TO GULF AND BP, EXPECT THAT GOK MAY ASK COMPANIES TO COME UP WITH INITIAL PROPOSAL, A TACK GOK HAS USED AT OTHER TIMES.

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2. KOC OFFICIAL SAID HE EXPECTS MEETING LATER THIS MONTH WILL

BE SHORT AND MAIN PURPOSE WILL BE TO DEFINE SPECIFIC ISSUES AND
GENERAL BOUNDARIES WITHIN WHICH DISCUSSIONS WILL TAKE PLACE.

3. COMMENT: BASED ON CURRENTLY AVAILABLE EVIDENCE WE ANTICIPATE
A RELATIVELY SHORT MEETING WITH NO DRAMATIC OUTCOME. BOTH SIDES
WILL STATE INITIAL POSITIONS AS COMPANIES TRY TO DETERMINE WHAT
IT IS GOK WANTS AND GOVERNMENT TRIES TO FIGURE OUT WHAT WILL
BE ACCEPTABLE, HOPEFULLY WITH LITTLE FUSS, IN NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
AND AMONG OTHER ARAB GULF PRODUCING STATES AS WELL.PARTICULARLY
IN LIGHT REQUIREMENT FOR NATIONAL ASSEMBLY RATIFICATION, SEEMS
LIKELY RENEGOTIATION COULD DRAG ON FOR SOME MONTHS.
STOLTZFUS

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NNN

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30 JUN 2005

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Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005